

2014 Clean Water Indiana Grant



The Clean Water Indiana (CWI) Program was established to provide financial assistance to landowners and conservation groups. The financial assistance supports the implementation of conservation practices which will reduce nonpoint sources of water pollution through education, technical assistance, training, and cost sharing programs.

The CWI fund is administered by the Division of Soil Conservation under the direction of the State Soil Conservation Board. The CWI Program is responsible for providing local matching funds as well as grants for sediment and nutrient reduction projects through Indiana's Soil and Water Conservation Districts. CWI also contributes critical state matching funds for Indiana's Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program, an initiative which utilizes federal funds to encourage landowners to conserve environmentally sensitive land.

Furthermore, the CWI Program has supported the Conservation Cropping Systems Initiative which focuses on management systems approach to crop production which results in improved soil and water quality as well as profitability on Indiana cropland.

During state fiscal year 2014, the State Soil Conservation Board awarded 12 Clean Water Indiana grants totaling \$724,000. Grant funds can be used for Cost Share Incentives, Technical Assistance, and Adult Education (maximum of \$1,000 per year).

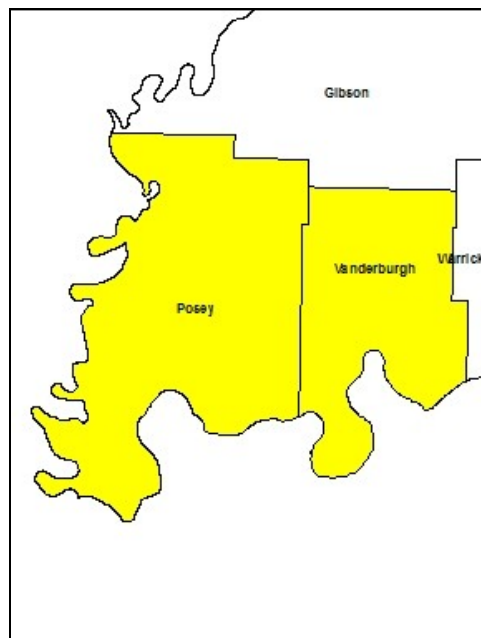
LEAD DISTRICT: VANDERBURGH
COLLABORATING DISTRICTS: POSEY
PROJECT NAME: TWO STAGE DITCH
PROJECT DATES: 1/1/2014-12/31/2016
PROJECT AMOUNT: \$39,250



Purpose: Construct a two stage demonstration ditch

The two counties will partner with NRCS, TNC, landowners and land users to construct a two stage demonstration ditch in a highly visible and accessible site located just off of Highway 62.

Water quality, drainage and sedimentation are of high concern in both Vanderburgh and Posey counties and also an important component in agriculture and property management within Indiana. Two stage ditches reduce nutrient loading which is causing the hypoxia problems in the Gulf of Mexico. At this flat site, a two-stage ditch would be able to improve both the drainage and ecological functions and improve the ditch stability by reducing water flow velocity and the need for maintenance, saving both labor, money and soils. It can also create and maintain better habitat conditions in area waters. The two-stage ditch has been developed to reduce flow velocity and bank erosion, increase nutrient removal via flood plain inundation and reduce nitrates in tile water. In addition, other field management practices will be used to aid in sediment reduction such as cover crops and conservation tillage.



PARTNERS FOR THE PROJECT INCLUDE:
NRCS, AND THE NATURE CONSERVANCY,

The project site will be used for field days and site visits as well as being visible from local roadways.

Adult
Education
\$1,000

